



Fact Sheet:

Alcohol and Drug Treatment for Youth



Youth Treatment Funding

The first alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment funding in California specifically designated for youth was authorized by Assembly Bill 1784 (Baca, Chapter 866, Statutes of 1998). This funding was to establish youth AOD treatment programs, develop youth treatment standards and evaluate the programs. Of the total \$4.9 million annual appropriation, \$4.7 million was allocated to 20 counties based on need, \$100,000 was used to develop youth treatment standards, and \$149,000 was for evaluation. In 2000, the Legislature appropriated an additional \$8.3 million in new funds for youth treatment statewide. However, in 2001, the Legislature reduced this funding to \$2.6 million.

Youth Treatment Services

Youth treatment funds are allocated to counties to provide services such as outreach, early intervention, low and high intensive outpatient treatment, residential treatment (in group home settings and juvenile detention facilities) and continuing care. The focus of services varies by county, depending upon local need and priorities.

Youth Treatment Guidelines and Standards

The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) established a multi-disciplinary workgroup to develop standards for youth treatment. In 2000, the workgroup completed the *Youth Treatment Guidelines*, a set of best practices to ensure that youth treatment services are safe, appropriate, and cost effective. The guidelines are posted on ADP's Web site at <http://www.adp.ca.gov>. The workgroup continued to meet to develop minimum standards for youth treatment program certification. The certification standards are completed and are a component of the proposed regulation package prepared by ADP's Licensing and Certification Division.

Youth Treatment Evaluation

ADP contracted with the Public Health Institute to evaluate the youth treatment programs established by Assembly Bill 1784. A preliminary report was completed March 2002, and a final evaluation report should be available by the end of 2004 and will be posted on ADP's Web site.

Youth Development and Crime Prevention Initiative

The 2000-01 Budget Act provided \$5 million for the Youth Development and Crime Prevention Initiative. The funds for the Initiative came from three sources: \$3 million from the Workforce

Investment Act, \$1.1 million from the Mental Health Block Grant, and \$975,000 from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant. These funds are being used in seven counties (Butte, Mendocino, Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Stanislaus) to demonstrate a model system of coordinated and comprehensive services for youth engaged in, or at high risk of committing juvenile crime. The model is based upon youth development principles of support, opportunities, and an array of developmentally appropriate services for youth. This pilot project ends in 2004